## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Johan NEYTS et al.

Confirmation No.: 5115

Serial No.:

10/519,756

Art Unit:

1617

Filed:

December 30, 2004

Examiner:

S. WANG

Customer No.:

21559

Title:

VIRAL INHIBITORS

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In reply to the Restriction Requirement that was mailed in connection with the above-captioned case on July 30, 2008, applicants elect, with traverse, the invention of Group I, claims 23-30, 45, and 46, and Group G, where R<sup>1</sup> is aryl and R<sup>3</sup> is 6-membered heterocyclic, oxyheterocylic, or thioheterocyclic ring. Applicants elect the species of 2-phenyl-5-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-5H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridine (entry 26 in Table 8) that has the structure

The elected species reads on claims 23-29, 45, and 46.

Applicants traverse the requirement on the ground that it is unclear whether the claims have been restricted between substituted and unsubstituted R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> groups. The election is therefore made with the understanding that that the elected groups for  $R^1$  and  $R^3$  may be substituted or unsubstituted.

Applicants traverse the requirement on the ground that the Examiner's requirement is indefinite and does not encompass the claimed compounds and their uses.

If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 2, 2008

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